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JAN 27 1971

MEMORANDUM

To : Col. Lloyd L. Rall, Assistant Deputy Director, DIA,
for Mapping, Charting, and Geodesy

From : Arthur L. Burt, Coordinator for Maps and Publications,
Department of State

Subject: Geographic Attaché Program (Map Procurement)

As you are well aware, the Inter-Agency Map Procurement Program has been serving the governmental mapping and intelligence agencies since the end of World War II. This cooperative venture has been highly successful for all concerned, and all participating agencies have supported the program with materials for exchange, some funds, and assistance of personnel.

At the present time the Geographic Attaché/Map Procurement Program, conducted and financed by the Department of State, is staffed by eight officers. Four of these men are based overseas (Bonn, Tehran, New Delhi, and Tokyo) and four are based in Washington and cover four overseas areas (Latin America, Western, Northern, and Eastern Europe).

The Office of Organization and Management, Department of State, is variously reported as (a) planning to reduce the Departmental support to \$100,000 and one Geographic Attaché (GA) position and three local positions (with costs of these four positions to be defrayed by approximately \$30,000 of the above mentioned sum; the remainder, ca \$70,000, could be used in the program as required), and (b) planning to eliminate six GA positions at the end of FY-1971, and the remaining two at the end of FY-1972, unless position and financial support is provided by the agencies benefitting from the program.

On August 7, 1970, Mr. R. J. Smith, Deputy Director for Intelligence, CIA, requested the National Intelligence Resources Board (NIRB), to make an evaluation of the Map Procurement Program. An Ad-Hoc Committee, established by the NIRB, submitted the requested report to the NIRB on October 7, 1970. In brief, that report pronounced the requirements valid, and recommended the continuance of the program at its current strength. The report did not cover the matter of position and financial support by other agencies since it was not asked to report on that matter.

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Mr. Ray S. Cline, Director of the Bureau of Intelligence and Research, is convinced of the value of the program and is willing to try to maintain it at its current strength. He faces, however, a determined effort on the part of Mr. Thomas Stern, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Organization and Management, to reduce Departmental support unless assistance is provided by end-user agencies.

In order to support Mr. Cline's efforts to insure program maintenance, two actions are proposed:

1. recommending of a slight re-arrangement of the overseas and domestically based GA positions, and
2. undertaking of a preliminary investigation of position and dollar support possibilities among end-user agencies.

The re-arrangement would be proposed as follows:

Positions based
Overseas

1. New Delhi
2. Nairobi
3. Tehran
4. Tokyo

Positions based
in Washington

1. Latin America
2. Northern Europe
3. Western Europe
4. Eastern Europe

The re-arrangement has only two changes from the current structure: (a) the establishment of the African position in Nairobi (Africa is currently covered from Washington), and (b) the return of the Boan position to initiate procurement in Eastern Europe from a Washington base.

This plan places GAs overseas in posts covering four regions which are distant, important to end-users, and difficult to work through other than personal-professional contacts as implemented by GAs. They are also the most expensive to cover from Washington.

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While it is recognized that the DOD, as other organizations, has suffered deep cuts in funds and positions, it is requested that you seek to determine if two or three positions might be sponsored by the DOD.

Unless the participating agencies are able to assist the Department of State in the near future, with respect to the Geographic Attaché program, it would appear that we will receive severe cutbacks in our acquisition efforts, which will have detrimental effects on mapping and intelligence programs throughout the government.

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It would be appreciated if you might give your attention to this problem on a priority basis, for unless some solutions are found, the Department may be implementing cutbacks at the end of this Fiscal Year.

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